

TITLE IV—INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION

The conference agreement provides \$66,000,000 for the Appalachian Regional Commission. Within available funds, the conferees direct the Commission to provide \$1,000,000 to facilitate construction of the Farmers' Ethanol biorefinery and supporting infrastructure in Perry County, Ohio. The conferees support the Appalachian-Turkish Trade Project to promote trade and investment opportunities.

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement provides \$20,268,000 for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, the same as the request.

DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement appropriates \$6,048,000 for the Delta Regional Authority. The conferees direct the Authority to submit to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations quarterly financial reports providing detailed accounting data on the expenditures of funds during fiscal year 2005. The conferees also expect the Authority to submit a detailed budget justification for the fiscal year 2006 budget.

DENALI COMMISSION

The conference agreement appropriates \$67,000,000 for the Denali Commission. The conferees renew the direction to the Commission to submit a detailed budget justification for fiscal year 2006.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes \$662,777,000, to be offset by revenues of \$534,354,000, for a net appropriation of \$128,423,000. This reflects the statutory language adopted by the conference in fiscal year 2001 to reduce the fee recovery requirement to 90 percent in fiscal year 2005.

In fiscal year 2004, the conferees directed the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to contract with the National Academy of Sciences for a study of spent nuclear fuel storage at commercial reactor sites. The National Academy completed this study and found a number of areas in which the NRC could improve its modeling of the risks to spent fuel storage and the mitigation of such risks. The conferees expect the NRC to take the necessary steps to improve its analyses, including the preparation of site-specific models, and to work with the utilities to ensure timely application of this information to mitigate risks.